

Et Plainfield March 30th/63

Dear my Son

Your very welcome letter arrived this morning, and I improve this early opportunity to answer it, I desire as far as in me is to have the Golden rule my governing principle, I have just finished a letter to your Emily in answer to one she wrote me not long ago in which she expressed the same complaint of having nothing to write that was interesting, just as you complain Now it is not so difficult to interest me as you imagine to hear that you are all well is always interesting to hear, But I would you both could write me that, that would interest me more than anything else, You can judge what that would be without my naming it. You say my last to you was dated Feb 23, I mailed one to you without my naming it. You say my last to you was dated Feb 23 I mailed one to you the 10th inst with my picture in it, hope you

Transcription:

[raised imprint reads: "DOVE"]

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Leander my Son

Your very wellcome letter

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As you have so much leisure time
I should think you would like to write to
pass it away, but then I know it costs some-
thing to write, but I trust that is not your
objection, But do try and find something in-
teresting to write about. Let me name one
thing, begin (if you have not already) to study
the Bible carefully for just what it is the
word of God, Now I think that would inter-
est you, and it certainly would interest me
to hear of it. Yes my dear son I think this
a golden opportunity. We have had quite a
stormy unpleasant month but to day it looks
like making sugar our folks are up in the
woods tapping but there is no telling what
sort of a season it will be for sugar, but
when I write again I may be able to inform you
wish you were here to help eat some, but I
shall continue to hope that you may before a
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great while. You wish that H & J would

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great while. You wish that H & G would
write to you. but they are so busy just now
(and in fact they are most of the time,) so I

shall have to tell you a little about
our stock &c We have got three calves and
when I write again will tell you how many lambs
we have, Sheep are very high at present, your
father bought a buck in December and paid
\$7 for it, the first week he was offered \$11
for it but wouldn't take, he sold a yoke of
oxen for \$1.50, and bought another yoke for \$9.00
the past week, We have a yoke of two years old
another of yearlings, and another yoke just be-
gun, so if nothing happens in a few years
we shall have some oxen, a yoke to let you
have when you come back. H & G have built
each a sled and hitch their steers to them
and team them round considerable, they take
a good deal of comfort in it. We have four
cows so I am in hopes to make considerable
cheese & butter, I churned six pounds the past
week, wish I could send you on some, for it is
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wish I could add to your comfort, but
can do little else then write occasionally

and if that does you any good I shall
be well paid, I have not heard ^{from} Josy &
Elmer since I wrote you last; but am hoping
every day will bring news. It is quite sickly
about here at present; several have died of
late, two in one family with Diphtheria, Bad
colds prevail greatly, George has had it the
past week, but is better, the rest of us has
all escaped thus far, for which I would be
very thankful, I don't think of anything
more to write now, and as I wrote so lately
I have not much that is new to write about.
I will send you two papers, Now if you
don't like your father's papers very well just
signify it and I won't trouble you with them
but I shall hope you do, You say you have
got sick of writing letters. Now suffer a word
of entreaty, don't indulge in such feelings for
it does me good to get a letter if there isn't
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Mother